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sense of proportion. The select bibliography is all that is required for general readers and for most practical workers. One might venture to ask, since Uhlhorn is mentioned, why Ratzinger is omitted. Sollier's work on the Idiot and Imbecile would be recommended by many. R. M. Smith's discussion of Immigration is not mentioned. The "Schriften des deutschen Vereins für Armenpflege und Wohlthätigkeit," are very important for students of recent German charity work. Drage's discussion of the Unemployed had not appeared when the book went to press.

C. R. HENDERSON.

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*Die Englischen Bergwerksgesetze (Münchener Volkswirtschaftliche Studien. Sechstes Stück).* By DR. F. SPENCER BALDWIN. Stuttgart: J. G. Cotta'sche Buchhandlung, 1894. 8vo. pp. xiv + 258.

THIS monograph gives a detailed, but clear and systematic account of the steady progress of mining legislation from the first tentative measures of 1842 to the comprehensive, and in most respects admirable law of 1887, which is now in operation.

Several causes, most important among which were the geographical position of the mines and the long standing of the methods in use, operated together to prevent any regulation of this branch of industry until long after the more conspicuous and more recently developed system of manufacturing enterprises had received considerable attention from Parliament. But in 1840, eight years after the passage of the Reform Bill, the Children's Employment Commission was appointed by act of Parliament, and its report, presented in 1842, pictured a state of affairs in the mines which, in the words of Lord Ashley, "no man could read of without experiencing a mingled feeling of shame, horror and astonishment." The nature of the report may be inferred in part from the provisions of the law which was founded upon it, and passed after obstinate resistance from the mine-owners. The employment underground of women, and of children less than ten years of age was altogether prohibited; no child should be bound apprentice before his tenth year nor for more than eight years; and the appointment of an inspector was authorized, to take cognizance of violations of the law. The only portion of the law which dealt with the matter of safety in the mines was a clause providing that the machinery for operating the

elevators in the shafts should not be placed in charge of any person less than fifteen years of age. The payment of wages in "gifts" of liquors or within public houses, an abuse not described in the commission's report, was also prohibited.

In 1850 and 1855 laws were passed providing for a system of inspection for the prevention and investigation of accidents in the mines, but neither law was at all adequate. In 1860 the latter law expired by limitation and an act was passed through the persistent and systematic efforts of the miners' unions which re-enacted its provisions in a more effective form. The provision of the law of 1842 concerning the payment of wages was restated in a more definite manner and the employment underground of children under twelve years of age was forbidden, except in cases where children between ten and twelve could read or were allowed three hours twice a week for attendance at school. Every mine was required to be connected with the surface by at least two independent shafts so that ventilation might be relatively more thorough than before. But this law was at once followed by a vigorous agitation on the part of the miners' unions which resulted in the appointment of the Commission of 1865-67 and ultimately in the passage of the comprehensive Coal Mines Act of 1872. In the same year the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act was passed, in most respects a close copy of its companion.

Finally in 1887 English mining legislation assumed its present form in the Coal Mines Regulation Act, which incorporates a systematic reënactment and improvement of the law of 1872 together with those of 1881 and 1886, and a number of new provisions based upon the report of the Royal Commission of 1879-86 on the scientific prevention of accidents. The following is a brief summary of the act: (1) The employment underground of women and of children less than twelve years of age is prohibited; (2) Persons under sixteen years of age shall not be required to work more than ten hours each day and fifty-four each week; (3) Wages shall not be paid in liquors nor in the neighborhood of any public house; (4) The miners may appoint a controller of the weighing, and the weights and scales shall be inspected regularly every six months; (5) A staff of inspectors is appointed by the government to examine the mines with reference to safety and the general fulfillment of the law and to report each year to Parliament; (6) Every mine must be under the direction of a technically educated manager, must be connected with the surface by at least two inde-

pendent shafts, and must be inspected regularly each day before the commencement of work ; (7) Fatal accidents may be officially investigated ; (8) There shall be issued a series of general rules for the laborers' safety, and special rules shall be agreed upon for each mine by the owner and the Secretary of State, and published for the miners' guidance and safety. No provisions appear in the act concerning compulsory education or the truck system, as these have been made subjects of general legislation. The act is drawn up in definite terms and is enforced by a system of penalties, so that evasion is less easy than it had been before. The laborers' representatives are protected by an act of August, 1894, against molestation in the exercise of their privileges of overseeing the weighing and of inspecting the mines throughout, each month.

In the final chapter a number of the present aims of the Miners' Federation are discussed in detail, but of greatest interest is the very full statement of the arguments for and against the proposed eight hours law. So far as the general economic utility of the eight hours day is concerned, Dr. Baldwin is inclined to draw the conclusion from statistics which he presents, that it effects a reduction in cost of production instead of involving an increase. The question then remains as to the best method of establishing the limit. Two main arguments are offered and forcibly urged in favor of leaving the matter to the arbitrament of those most intimately concerned. The miners are abundantly able themselves to secure a reduction of the time for work, and have in fact already brought down the average to 8.78 hours. Where this is true, state intervention is inadvisable. In the second place a general law cannot allow for variations of the length of the day, as the demand for coal may slacken or become more intense. Hence the adjustment in the different mines can be made only by alternately discharging and employing numbers of men and in this way depressing wages and developing a class of laborers without regular employment. Even strikes, it is maintained, will produce more accurate local arrangements than can any rigid general law. These considerations lead a material proportion of the Miners' Federation to oppose any legislation on the subject, though they desire none the less the eight hours day. The solution of the question may be, the author suggests, the concession of a share in the management of the mines to representatives of the laborers.

The signal merit of the book is the clearness with which the move-

ment of development and progress in the legislation is traced. The conditions preceding each act of Parliament are carefully described, the exact deficiencies in scope, structure and execution of the different laws are pointed out, and each attempt at satisfactory regulation is compared with the preceding one. Not the least valuable portions of the study are those which outline the discussions in Parliament and the gradually increasing activity of the miners in their own behalf from 1840 until the present. The history of mining legislation is made to throw much light upon the general question of governmental interference in industry. In this instance it has apparently not resulted in the establishment of any conditions which are not economically advantageous, and has certainly done much to increase the efficiency and general welfare of the mining class.

HENRY W. STUART.

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*First Special Report of the Factory Inspectors of Illinois on Small-Pox in the Tenement-House Sweat-Shops of Chicago.* Springfield, Ill.: H. W. Rokker, 1894. 8vo. pp. 57.

THIS pamphlet records the attempt by the Factory Inspectors of Illinois "to enforce section 1 and section 2 of the factories and work-shops law," which prohibit the use of tenements or dwelling houses for the manufacture of garments by any persons except those immediately residing in them, and provide for the destruction of infected articles of clothing.

The information embodied in the earlier pages of the report is briefly and clearly conveyed, and throws a strong light on the conduct of Commissioner Reynolds and the city board of health. Few statistics are given in the body of the report, and the account of the inspectors' work is therefore fragmentary, although presenting a mass of petty detail.

The record does not pretend to give anything approaching a complete enumeration of violations of the law. The cases taken are supposed to be typical, and are selected for the purpose of illustrating the difficulties with which the inspectors had to contend.

For the most part the report is a report of failures to enforce the law. This was primarily due to the want of proper authority on the part of the inspectors to carry out their own orders, and, in a less degree, to the inefficiency of the city Commissioner of Health. The